

**THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION**  
**February 22, 2009**

The 139<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Congregation of the Fourth Presbyterian Church was convened by the Moderator, the Rev. Dr. John Buchanan, at 12:15 p.m. on Sunday, February 22, 2009 in the sanctuary of the Fourth Presbyterian Church. Dr. Buchanan opened the meeting with prayer.

**Report of the Clerk of Session**

Martin Sherrod, Clerk of Session, determined that a quorum was present.

Mr. Sherrod announced that the minutes of the 138<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Congregation, held on February 10, 2008, were available for review in several locations throughout the church and in the church office. A motion was made, seconded and **adopted** to approve the minutes of the 138th Annual Congregational Meeting of Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago.

Mr. Sherrod reviewed the church's accomplishments in 2008 while maintaining the discipline of a balanced budget, and spoke of the resilience and faithfulness of the staff during the illness and death of the Executive Associate Pastor, Dana Ferguson. He expressed particular gratitude to John and Sue Buchanan for their devotion, example and leadership in 2008.

The Moderator called on Elder Mary Schaafsma, Chair of the Nominating Committee, to present the committee's report.

**Nominating Committee Report**

Ms. Schaafsma summarized the committee's process and introduced and thanked committee members for their service: Rita Bennett, Gerry Bloomer, Martha Brown, Lisa Garay, Judy Kerch, Arnie Lenters, Carol Lobbes, Sue Lopatka, Sara Pfaff, Joe Pixler and Tom Rook and Carol Allerton, staff.

Ms. Schaafsma presented the following candidates for election as Elders:

Class of 2012

Stewart Bradley

Vernon Broders

Edward Coke

Carol Gates

Janet Krehbiel Pieracci

Brian McCrea

Judith Monroe

Melanie Oh

Elizabeth Rizer

Catherine Sigmar

Seth Tuscher

S.L. Van der Zanden

Class of 2010

Jacob Dorn (youth)

The Moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, a motion was made, seconded and **adopted** to elect the candidates as Elders.

Ms. Schaafsma presented the slate of candidates for election to the Board of Deacons:

Class of 2010

Linda Bracken

Class of 2011

Jennifer Keller

Class of 2012

Ron Bottrell  
Wydetta Carter  
Cary Donham  
Blair Eklund  
Elaine Filius  
Rod Gedey  
Cynthia Joho  
Tracy Koogler

Jean Marie Koon  
Melanie Morgan  
Robert O'Brien  
Arlene Raine  
Gary Rayl  
Mark Schimmelpfennig  
Douglas Voyles  
Eran Wade

Class of 2010

Brooke Bonner (youth)

Bertram Rogers (youth)

The Moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, a motion was made, seconded and **approved** to elect the candidates to the Board of Deacons.

Ms. Schaafsma presented the following candidates to represent the congregation as members-at-large of the 2009 Nominating Committee:

Mark Bereyso  
Dianne Bowman  
Sylvia Hope Daniels  
Karen McCracken

David Miller  
Anthony Ruger  
Cecy Szuba

The Moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, a motion was made, seconded and **approved** to elect the members-at-large of the 2009 Nominating Committee. The Moderator welcomed all candidates elected to their offices for the coming term.

Ms. Schaafsma recognized the following members whose nomination to the Chicago Lights Board of Directors was approved by the Session on February 13, 2009:

Patricia Habicht  
Suzanne Kickhaefer

Karen Lamb  
Kenneth Staral (Community Representative)

**Recognition of the Chicago Lights Board**

The Moderator called on Vicky Curtiss, Executive Director of Chicago Lights, who recognized the efforts of outgoing Board members Betty Bergstrom, Mark Bereyso and Bob Doak.

The Moderator asked for a motion to recess the Meeting of the Congregation to convene a meeting of the Corporation. A motion was made, seconded, and **approved**.

**Meeting of the Corporation**

Bob Parsons, President of the Board of Trustees and the Corporation, convened the meeting of the Corporation. A motion to approve the minutes of the annual meeting of the corporation held on February 10, 2008 was made, seconded, and **approved**. Church Treasurer Marilee Hopkins reviewed the 2008 financial report and 2009 budget. Mr. Parsons thanked Ms. Hopkins for her ongoing oversight of church finances.

Ms. Schaafsma was invited to report on behalf of the Nominating Committee and placed in

nomination the following persons for the Board of Trustees:

Class of 2012

Paul Branstad  
Philip Calian  
Kelly Dibble  
Janet Feldman

Pamela Jameson  
Deborah Mitchell  
Charlotte Wager

Mr. Parsons asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, a motion to close the nominations and elect the present slate was made, seconded, and **adopted**.

Mr. Parsons asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Corporation and reconvene the meeting of the Congregation. A motion was made, seconded, and **adopted**. The meeting of the Corporation was adjourned.

Moderator John Buchanan reconvened the meeting of the Congregation of Fourth Presbyterian Church, and called on Elder David Crawford for a report on Project Light.

**Report on Project Light**

Mr. Crawford thanked the Project Light Leadership Team, church officers and staff for their patient, diligent work during the past eight years and reviewed the Project Light 2000-2008 financial report, noting disbursements and the remaining balance. He referred to a letter to the congregation from John Buchanan stating the decision to relinquish the attempt to sell air rights and become part of a joint development high rise building to address the church's need for more space. He stated the church will proceed on its own to meet space needs, expand programs and strengthen the church for the future. To that end, the Project Light Leadership Team has been dissolved and new committees have been established to develop a plan for meeting those goals.

**Report on the Personnel Committee**

Elder Arlene Faulk noted staff transitions and anniversaries, and recognized the work of committee members throughout the year. Ms. Faulk expressed particular thanks to John Buchanan and the staff leadership team of Calum MacLeod, Acting Executive Associate Pastor, Rob Holben, Ali Trowbridge, Don Allerton and Barbara Cleveland during Dana Ferguson's medical leave and to Leszek Pytka and the House Staff for their important attention to the daily activities at the church. She also gratefully acknowledged the role of Dana Ferguson during her fourth year as Executive Associate Pastor, "defly managing the intricacies of Fourth Church."

**Pastor's Report**

Moderator Buchanan thanked the staff, officers and members of the congregation for their energy, for the consistent inquiring as to what more God wants of us, and for the privilege of working as Pastor of Fourth Presbyterian Church. He referenced a number of programs and initiatives during the year, spoke of staff transitions, the difficult decision to end the church's effort for joint development of a high rise building, and the economic challenges ahead of us. Moderator Buchanan expressed hope and excitement as the "Refreshing the Vision" planning process completes its work and the recommendations are translated into new building space. He thanked the Project Light Leadership Team for investing hundreds of hours of personal and professional time on behalf of Project Light. Moderator Buchanan acknowledged Dana Ferguson's continuing legacy of a passionate commitment to mission, education and children and announced the formation of the Dana Ferguson Myers Memorial Education Fund to assist

outstanding students in the Tutoring Program with educational expenses as they enter high school.

The Moderator asked for any comments, questions, unfinished or new business. There being none, a motion was made, seconded and **adopted** to adjourn the meeting, which was closed at 1:12 p.m. with the singing of "Startle Us, God" and with prayer led by the Rev. Calum MacLeod.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Martin Sherrod, Clerk of Session



---

John Buchanan, Moderator

